

**REMARKS**

Claim 8 is pending in the above-identified application. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated July 14, 2006.

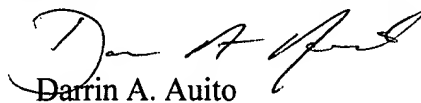
Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Venkatraman* (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,487) in view of *Tang* (U.S. Patent No. 6,160,629). To expedite prosecution Applicants hereby cancel claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date. If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



Darrin A. Auito

Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 56,024  
Telephone: (202) 822-1100  
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

DAA/rf